Statement-III

Growth Rate (Annual percentage increase) in pocurement of Rice

Marketing Year	Total Rice (in Lakh Tonnes)	Annual Growth rate (percentage increase over last year)
1987-88	69·02	..
1988-89	77·29	11·98
1989-90 (P)	118·67	53·54
1990-91 (P)	126·71	6·77

P-Provisional.

Modernisation of Agricultural Research and Extension Systems

4063. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government have taken during the last three years, till date to modernise agricultural research and extension systems and what is the outcome thereof; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take to modernise agricultural research and extension system during the Eighth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) Sir, The Government have taken steps to modernise the agricultural research and extension system by continuous upgradation of infrastructural facilities and development of human resources. Modern Technology has helped the farming Community in improving quality of produce and increasing agricultural production.

(b) A Standing Policy Planning Committee has been constituted to render advice to Indian Council of Agricultural Research for effective planning of research and upgrading the research facilities.

Dryland Farming

4064. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are taking steps to promote dryland farming; if so, the details thereof;

(b) the names of the States where schemes have been sponsored by the Central Government to promote dryland farming;

(c) whether any such scheme has been introduced in Orissa;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to promote dryland farming in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Following Schemes/Projects are in operation to promote dryland agriculture:—

(i) Centrally Sponsored Scheme on National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas.

(ii) Himalayan Watershed Management Project. Uttar Pradesh. (World Bank Aided)